

**REMARKS**

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 4-8 and 10 have been amended and new claims 11-13 have been added. Claims 1 and 4-13 are pending and under consideration.

**OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS:**

The present amendments to claim 7 overcome the objection.

**OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

The present amendments to claim 7 overcome the rejections.

**REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:**

The present amendments to claim 7 overcome the rejections.

**REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:**

*Claims 1 and 4-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ishikawa et al.*

Independent claim 1 recites “a spacer disposed between the second and third plates and defining a through hole to receive a plurality of the contactors”. For example, present FIG. 7 illustrates this feature. In contrast, Ishikawa et al. discloses a single needle-like element 7 in the through hole 3a. Ishikawa et al., FIG. 1.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

**NEW CLAIMS:**

New claims 11-13 are added. Independent claim 11 recites “a spacer disposed between the first and second plates, the first and second plates and the spacer to define a through hole to receive a plurality of the contactors.” Accordingly, new claims 11-13 are patentable over the cited reference.

**CONCLUSION:**

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

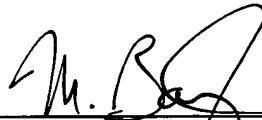
If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 7-14-04

By:



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